

***Interim Findings
of the U.S. Next Generation Task Force
U.S.-Japan Commission on Cultural and Educational Exchange (CULCON)***

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Background

CULCON is dedicated to cultural and educational exchange and this Task Force on the Next Generation seeks to identify ways to support the next generation of U.S.-Japan leaders. The Task Force aims to envision how Americans and Japanese can continue to build on the generations of exchanges that have strengthened our relationship while adapting to the evolving needs of our time and our world. We are particularly interested in supporting Americans and Japanese who want to collaborate to solve our shared challenges of the future.

As we prepare the next generation of Americans and Japanese to continue to build partnerships, to become knowledgeable about each other and our concerns, and to adapt to new opportunities for collaboration in a rapidly transforming world, we must ensure that younger Americans and Japanese are supported and encouraged to seek each other out. Just as our generation was supported by the scholarships, programs, and exchanges built to help us, we must consider how to sustain existing exchange opportunities and build new ones to capture the evolution in professional pathways.

The United States and Japan today cooperate in a multitude of ways. Since CULCON's founding in 1961, our cultural and educational exchanges have broadened significantly, and American interest in Japan has only deepened. Since 2011, the number of Americans visiting Japan for tourism or business doubled, reaching 1.2 million in 2016. Our scientific and technological cooperation now extends to all frontiers of science, and today Japanese and Americans are working side by side on cutting edge scientific research across many fields, including space, life sciences and renewable sources of energy. No matter what their field of expertise, our educators inform each other in their research, and American students still seek the opportunity to study in Japan. Our businesses collaborate—and compete—across the globe, but also invest in each other's economies, creating jobs and contributing to our nations' economic prosperity.

When CULCON was established in 1961, the U.S.-Japan alliance was under challenge, both within Japan and in the United States. In a time of geopolitical flux, CULCON was designed to help Americans and Japanese learn about each other and build partnerships outside of government that would sustain our strategic cooperation.

Today, Japanese and Americans of all generations not only know each other and their respective cultures well, but a vast majority in both countries supports the expanding U.S.-Japan partnership. At the 70th anniversary of World War II, 68 percent of Americans viewed Japan favorably, and 75 percent of Japanese viewed United States favorably.

But this did not happen overnight, nor did it happen without the support of many public and private leaders who have advocated for closer relations. For the past 70 years, generations of Americans have studied about Japan in U.S. universities and colleges when areas studies, and Japan Studies in particular, were at their height. Philanthropists with a dedication to global studies and to building a global liberal order found common cause with Japanese who saw their own postwar role as being deeply embedded in a globalizing world.

New Considerations for Next Generation Support

This multifaceted U.S.-Japan partnership must adapt, however. Globally and domestically, it faces diverse new challenges, and the next generation of Americans and Japanese are likely to face far different incentives as well as obstacles to collaboration. Building bridges for our future leaders is not only an investment in our human resources, therefore; it is an investment in ensuring that the U.S. and Japan continue to find value and opportunity in their partnership.

The success of CULCON in supporting this flourishing U.S.-Japan collaboration may suggest to some that our task is no longer as important as it once was. And yet there are a number of factors that suggest the need to rethink how we sustain cooperation across generations of Americans and Japanese.

First, funding for education, and for area studies in particular, has diminished as the U.S. government has revamped its national priorities. Fulbright Hays grants that allow American scholars to do research abroad are fewer, and federal government grants that support area studies at most of our major research universities are not as generous as they once were. To be sure, new programs have emerged, such as the Boren Fellowships, which support national security goals in regions where the U.S. has strategic interests. Title VI grants continue to provide funding to universities, but in smaller amounts and largely for language studies. Funding from Japanese sources, which grew rapidly in the 1980s, is also diminishing. Government funding for U.S. scholars continues to be an important source of research and training for the next generation, but it has come under greater scrutiny in Japan. Corporate donations from Japanese companies continue, and some universities who were the recipients of endowments for chairs in Japan Studies decades earlier continue to benefit from this largesse.

Second, whereas earlier generations of Americans sought to understand Japan for business reasons, Japan now competes with a number of other global markets for attention from U.S. corporate interests. Business leaders today see new emerging markets as equally if not more enticing, and within the United States, a rethinking of our national economic priorities is underway. While our economies rely heavily on each other as trading partners and as sources of foreign direct investment, human resources demand for other global destinations are attracting the next generation in the private sector.

Third, while the U.S.-Japan alliance seems no less important to Americans, there is growing interest in thinking about how to build the skills needed to solve problems in a far more complex world. Gone are the days when only bilateral issues dominated our policy agenda; today, Japanese and Americans are more often focused on issues that affect the Asia Pacific region or global governance challenges. For example, Americans and Japanese work together in providing aid and development assistance, in mitigating the impact of climate change, in maintaining open and secure sea lanes for commerce, and in the exploration of space.

The vast transformation in technology over the past decade has both facilitated and complicated our ability to understand each other. No longer bound by geographical limits, the ability of Americans and Japanese to communicate with each other has grown exponentially. This has prompted amazing opportunities for understanding each other's needs in real time, such as during Japan's "Triple Disasters" of March 2011. But it has also opened Americans and Japanese to the growing disquiet over transnational influences over national decisions. The rise of nationalist sentiments in both countries has exposed our diplomacy to new pressures.

Building a new set of priorities for U.S.-Japan exchange, therefore, requires understanding how to continue efforts that have demonstrated success in the past while recognizing the need for new models of exchange that can respond to these new circumstances that shape our partnership.

Our U.S. Task Force

In an *increasingly globalized society*, this partnership between Americans and Japanese continues to be a source of strength for both nations and a source of shared accomplishment that has implications far beyond these two societies. Yet we must ensure that Americans can learn about Japan, and thus we must support the professional development of our educators so that they can teach younger generations of Americans about Japan. Accompanying that, we must also ensure that they have the tools at their disposal to teach and the institutional capacity for sustained study of Japan. Libraries, resources, and organizations that support the field of Japan Studies in the United States must be nurtured. College curricula is changing, and we must consider how best to ensure that expertise on Japan continues to be accessible to future generations.

Our Task Force includes two social scientists that have led the development of Japan Studies, Professor T.J. Pempel of the University of California, Berkeley, and Professor Patricia Maclachlan of the University of Texas, Austin. CULCON Commissioner Deanna Marcum, former Associate Librarian at the Library of Congress, also assists us in our analysis of the changing patterns of scholarship on Japan in the United States.

New fields of inquiry and innovation also offer great opportunity for U.S.-Japan collaboration. So much of what excites the next generation are the globalizing technologies, platforms and businesses that were unimaginable a decade or so ago. Some of these opportunities are for innovative partnerships between the United States and Japan. For example, U.S. innovators look to Japanese design for the transformation in information technologies, and the Japanese health care industry looks to U.S. scientists to assist and support in the biotechnology field. In the field of energy, the U.S. and Japanese partnership continues to evolve as new types of energy develop and new ways of conserving and delivering it to consumers emerge. To help navigate these complex pathways to collaboration in innovation, James Kondo, Co-chair of Silicon Valley Japan Platform and Professor Dava Newman, Apollo Professor of Astronautics at MIT, are lending us their perspectives on how to envision the professions of and pathways to the future that our younger generation will build and rely upon for their professional development.

Finally, *new technologies have spurred opportunity* for Americans and Japanese to get to know each other through professional networks as well as through social media, and this has spurred new thinking about how to support professional interest in broadening the basis for communication and the sharing of ideas. Younger Americans seek new opportunities for communication and problem solving with their Japanese colleagues. Scientists work together in their respective labs to advance international scientific collaboration. Government officials work with their counterparts through visits to each other's capitals or on the sidelines of multilateral negotiations, but they also are building 24/7 communications between Washington and Tokyo that bring a host of government expertise to solving real

time problems. Educators bring their American or Japanese colleagues to their classrooms, in person or virtually, and are building online multinational learning opportunities. The people of the United States and Japan have new ways of building relationships today, and new platforms and new types of networks for professional association offer not only the opportunity for U.S.-Japan collaboration but also for multinational conversations on how to solve shared problems. Three of our Task Force members come from the business, law and legislative professions and are involved in building new networks of exchange for the U.S.-Japan partnership: Chuck Jones, Chief Executive for Lockheed Martin Japan, Danny Meza, Chief of Staff for Congressman Joaquin Castro, and Susan Morita, partner at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP and board member of the U.S.-Japan Council.

Goals and Approach of the U.S. Task Force

Our goal is to identify tried and true practices to sustain American engagement with Japan while building new platforms and networks that will help support the U.S.-Japan partnership as it adapts to a rapidly changing world.

Our stakeholders, as represented on our Task Force, are government and private sector organizations and individuals that can lead the effort to ensure that the rising generation of Americans can study Japan, collaborate with Japanese business and civil society partners, and learn from as well as inform Japanese experience in solving contemporary national and global challenges.

Our Task Force has three ambitions:

- To *imagine the future* of the U.S.-Japan partnership and consider how to expand our cooperation;
- To consider *the training and skills* that can support deeper understanding of our two societies and that can support closer cooperation between them; and,
- To *offer concrete suggestions* to U.S. and Japanese public and private sector leaders on how to build support for our next generation of leaders.

Our approach is to analyze existing pathways available for exchanges, to identify particularly promising areas of future U.S.-Japan cooperation, and to consider new innovative initiatives and strategies, regardless of our capacity to implement or the availability of funding, which support next generation partnerships

A First Cut at the Data: Diversifying Support for Next Generation Exchanges

U.S.-Japan cultural and educational exchanges are ongoing, fed by academic and cultural interests, business relationships, and a variety of non-governmental concerns with hopes for a more integrated global community. In our initial survey of publicly available data on organizations promoting opportunity for the next generation, we found 178 active programs. 104 of these were academic or research

focused, while 54 were for professional and 17 were for government (including legislative) exchanges. In contrast, only three programs focused on grassroots exchanges.

Several aspects of these exchanges were striking and suggestive for our Task Force deliberations. First, they were largely sponsored by nonprofit organizations, and remarkably few seem to be associated with the for-profit sector. Second, the majority (68 percent) was established by U.S.-based organizations, belying the impression that U.S. interest in supporting exchange is waning. Third, the target participants in these programs were both mid-career as well as early-career leaders. 91 programs included both while 47 targeted only early-career and 23 targeted only mid-career professionals. Fourth, there was also reasonably equitable attention to the direction of the exchange. In other words, 42 programs send Japanese participants to the United States, 36 send American participants to Japan, and 24 programs either have reciprocal exchanges or support either direction. Finally, and perhaps to be expected, the bulk of the existing programs are dedicated to academic or research professionals. One caveat is in order here. Our approach may not have captured private sector institutions that do not release information to the public, and thus more research needs to be done on private sector initiatives that support.

Our initial findings suggest some important questions for further analysis as we consider priorities for strengthening cultural and educational exchange for the next generation.

- Could our private sector play a larger role in support of U.S.-Japan exchanges between the United States and Japan? How should we consider ways to diversify the participation of Americans in exchanges with Japan? Can we consider how to broaden the ways in which younger Americans can learn about and visit Japan?
- Greater analysis of the organizations and in particular their sources of funding may be needed here as funding streams are changing as government budgets come under greater pressure. Note that we found relatively equal sources of funding—37 programs funded by U.S.-based organizations, 34 programs funded by Japan-based organizations, and 23 programs were co-funded. But where these organizations get their funding requires further study.
- Should we be aiming to provide a more balanced access to exchanges across various sectors of U.S. society? While academic support is a major task for CULCON, there is a case to be made for considering opportunities for exchanges that involve Americans and Japanese in the government, across professional sectors of the economy, and at the grassroots level.

U.S. Task Force Deliberations: Some Initial Findings

Finding #1: Rest Easy. Japan continues to be of great interest to Americans.

For some time now, there has been a concern that China is vastly overshadowing Japan as a topic of interest to Americans. To be sure, the demand for access to Chinese language training and knowledge on Chinese society, politics, and culture is growing as China's influence grows. Yet it seems empirically demonstrated that this is not a zero sum challenge to Japan Studies. In her detailed analysis of the Japan Studies field commissioned by the Japan Foundation, Professor Patricia Steinhoff finds little evidence that interest in studying about Japan has declined in the United States. Likewise, in the CULCON Educational Task Force report, a similar point was made about the number of Americans seeking to study abroad in Japan.

The problem for Japan Studies in fact may be more internal to U.S. academic preferences. The evolution of theorizing in the social sciences values area studies less, and comparative or quantitative methods more. This constrains those who would seek to build expertise on Japan or invest time in studying the language or conducting research in Japan. While these pressures are certainly not new, they do seem to be affecting the rising generation of scholars in the United States more acutely than ever.

Across the social sciences, this balancing act between particular knowledge and theoretical development continues to shape the way in which Americans are available to develop expertise on Japan. Globalization has made transnational analysis rather than national analysis more popular. In universities, the study of Japan is being reconsidered as the social sciences are changing their emphasis on theory and methods. In the humanities, cultural studies have developed as an intellectual focus and Japan Studies is being integrated with Asian Studies or World History.

Finding #2: The context of U.S.-Japan collaboration is changing.

The context within which Americans study and work with their Japanese colleagues is changing, and these changes can be seen across professions. Academic trends are shifting; careers in the professions must be developed in response to the new dynamics of global economic competition; and publics in the United States and Japan are seeing the pros and cons of globalization differently. All of these changes affect how the next generation of Americans and Japanese must consider their futures.

Technology is transforming the classroom as well as the boardroom. In the sciences, a desire for collaboration continues to motivate American and Japanese scientific inquiry. As new technologies develop, new opportunities are also emerging to bring our scientists together. The new information technologies have brought us into closer contact but have also created new challenges for national governance. Even

governments can now think of exchanging information with partners across the globe in new ways.

Finding #3: Geopolitics in Asia raise the stakes for the U.S.-Japan partnership

Finally, the assumption that understanding other cultures and societies is critical to global citizenship has received some pushback in the United States and in Japan. Economic realities in both countries have made it difficult for younger Americans and Japanese to study abroad, and for those who have made that investment, career opportunities have not always been easy to come by. CULCON's Educational Task Force continues to monitor improvements in study abroad opportunities.

And yet, the U.S.-Japan relationship has become ever more important as Asian geopolitics raise new challenges for Americans and Japanese. For many decades now, the growing economic prosperity of the Asia Pacific has been counted upon to bring peace to the region, but today's Asia seems far more fraught and unpredictable. Changes in the security environment, such as the growing North Korean nuclear and missile capabilities and the growing presence of the Chinese military in regional waters, demand a far deeper understanding of each other's security concerns than ever before.

Furthermore, the concomitant shift in economic power in Asia has begun to stimulate a reassessment with the United States and Japan of the benefits of a liberal international order. This includes a rethinking of the benefits of educating ourselves about other countries. For the United States and Japan, this means that once again the case must be made for studying abroad and for developing literacy in global affairs. As close as the U.S.-Japan partnership is, ensuring the foundation of a sustained partnership is more important than ever, and this now includes making the case here in the United States for the long-term value of investing in understanding each other.

U.S. Task Force on the Next Generation: Next Steps

The U.S. Task Force members identified three areas of focus for supporting the next generation of Americans interested in developing professional engagement with Japan.

A) Making Sure Educators can Continue to Teach about Japan

The United States must maintain and support teaching about Japan. Changing trends in social science disciplines and in funding opportunities at major research universities suggest the need to consider how to ensure the training of future scholars of Japan. At smaller and less well-endowed liberal arts colleges in particular, support for sharing resources, for providing access to libraries (digital and print), and other data sources that supports teaching on Japan should be supported.

Examples of New Initiatives:

1) Study on Support for Asian Studies (Deanna Marcum, Ithaca S+R)

This study works with 12 research universities and liberal arts colleges to understand changes anticipated in Asian Studies programs. Analysis of the resources needed to support teaching and research, as well as the capacity of libraries on campus to meet those needs, is ongoing to determine how best to sustain and support the teaching of Asia.

2) Henry Luce Foundation's LIASE Grants

This is a review of 26 recipients of the Luce Foundation's LIASE (Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment). Grants of up to \$400,000 per institution incentivize the inclusion of Asian experience in the interdisciplinary study of the environment as a way of ensuring student exposure to Asia. The Luce Foundation has been concerned that students outside Asian Studies programs have relatively little exposure to Asia. The grants allow faculty in environmental studies to travel to Asia and meet their counterparts in Asian universities. When they return, they develop interdisciplinary courses with their Asian Studies colleagues that broaden the perspectives of students from both disciplines. This review will examine the results of this curriculum development initiative with an aim to identifying best practices for teaching on Asia. Five exemplar programs will be selected for in-depth case studies that will help institutions beyond the grant recipients to re-think their interdisciplinary programs.

A three-pronged strategy for incentivizing educators on Japan

Our Japan Studies deliberations identified three ways to incentivize "bringing Japan back in" to academic curricula.

- First, to ensure the evolving research agenda on the big questions of the day includes Japan as a comparative case for social scientific research. A new initiative to bring leading social scientists to Japan on short term study tours could help to inform those leading the development of social sciences to consider ways in which to incorporate Japanese experience in analysis of contemporary social problems.
- Second, Japan Studies (and Asian Studies more broadly) can be incorporated into broader liberal arts curriculum on social problems. Deanna Marcum has agreed to share her findings from the Luce project with us as a way of considering incentives for bringing Japan into broader curricula liberal arts colleges.
- Finally, for those researching on and teaching about Japan, access to data and digital materials is essential. This is a longstanding issue for

American educators who work on Japan, and indeed for CULCON discussions on how to strengthen U.S.-Japan educational exchange.

Next steps: Continue our discussion on the needs of educators and curators of knowledge on Japan in the United States. Organize a meeting for the spring AAS meeting with others in the Japan field to get feedback and suggestions.

B) Looking Ahead to Emerging Areas of U.S.-Japan collaboration

The U.S.-Japan relationship is not static, and as technology, innovation, and geopolitics recast the opportunities for, and demands on, our bilateral partnership, support for younger professionals may require different models of collaboration and exchange.

As a first step, new thinking about how to collaborate in fields such as information technologies, in energy conservation and access, and in the STEM fields such as space, medicine, etc. Identifying a particular way in which Japanese and Americans can benefit from learning about each other could do this. Identifying a specific gap in opportunity for a particular group of people could do it. Or it could be driven by the needs of one specific area of collaboration or one particular group, enterprise or field in need of making a connection to Japanese/U.S. experts.

Examples of New Initiatives:

1) Design and Technology Exchange (Silicon Valley Japan Platform, James Kondo)

Design is emerging as one of the most important functions—along with engineering and product—at top technology firms in Silicon Valley. Japan is one of the countries that design leads in Silicon Valley companies look to for inspiration. Of the seven Pritzker Prize Winners in architecture since 2010, three have been Japanese. Some of the most iconic product designers today are from Japan. An aspect of Japanese design that Silicon Valley executives find particularly intriguing is the ability to simplify, to do more with less. In April 2017, Silicon Valley Japan Platform (SVJP) organized a five-day trip for a dozen technology executives in Silicon Valley to interact with design innovators in Japan. The trip started in Kyoto, visiting Zen monks and master craftsmen and absorbing traditional roots of Japanese design. In Tokyo, dialogues were organized with top designers in architecture, fashion and products. Discussions were organized on the future of technology and design, and specific collaborations that may be organized between leading companies from each country. Design & Technology represents a promising area where strong mutual interest exists between theorists and practitioners on both sides of the Pacific. Each side gains from the exchange, and the partnership has real prospects of leading to important innovations in many industries.

2) Girls' Rocketry Challenge (Lockheed Martin, Chuck Jones)

Japan is considered one of the world's leaders in science, technology and engineering, and yet there is limited opportunity for students to learn outside of the classroom and engage in real-life experiments that reinforce their intellectual curiosity and stimulate their interest in STEM careers.

Moreover, data from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Japan (MEXT) suggests that the number of female students who major in engineering-related fields is much less compared to their male counterparts.

In 2016, Lockheed Martin partnered with the Japan Association of Rocketry (JAR), a non-profit organization that sets model rocketry standards in Japan, and with Leave A Nest, a company that runs science education programs nationwide, to create a rocketry -focused STEM program in Japan. Lockheed Martin's STEM program in Japan aims to serve as an entry point an accelerator for high school students to experience first-hand the real-life application of physical engineering and technology.

Lockheed Martin hopes its STEM program will encourage students, especially female students, to experience STEM activities first-hand and open new doors for the next generation of innovators, explorers, and inventors.

Next steps: The U.S. Task Force will convene a workshop in Washington, DC in November 2017 to identify emerging arenas of cooperation between the United States and Japan and to consider priorities for building networks of opportunity for younger professionals.

C) Energizing Networks and Building Platforms

Americans and Japanese have benefitted from the foresight and investment of philanthropists who understood the need for their citizens to get to know each other and each other's societies. Yet many Japanese and Americans cannot visit each other, their interest in each other notwithstanding. Technology today offers new ways of communicating and building community, and of broadening the base of support for the relationship. Educators are building new ways of learning virtually; policy analysts are now members of new social media space, including blogs and Twitter; and innovative new ways of thinking about how to share global expertise are emerging.

Several networks for U.S.-Japan collaboration are already tremendously successful. One involved refurbishing the identity of one of the oldest exchange institutions in Japan, another focused on a particular group—Japanese Americans—in the United States, and a third energized the identity and activities of legislators interested in strengthening the U.S.-Japan partnership. All three built offer new ways to build ties between Americans and Japanese, and highlight the importance of our relationship.

Strong existing networks should be sustained while at the same time platforms for collaboration that take advantage of new communication technologies should be considered.

Examples of New Initiatives:

1) Asia Pacific Young Leaders Program (APYLP) (The International House of Japan)

Asia Pacific Young Leaders Program (APYLP) is a community of young leaders from Asia Pacific who will shape peace and prosperity for the region in the coming decades. The community was inspired by the work of John D. Rockefeller III who founded various institutions in the 1950s and 1960s to foster understanding with Asia Pacific – such as the International House of Japan, the Asia Society, Indian International Centre, Asian Cultural Council, and the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation. The program connects awardees of young leaders programs in the region, provides continued leadership education, fosters intra-regional initiatives, and provides a home in Japan for the young leaders to gather. The program will kick off in March 2018.

2) Japanese American Leadership Delegation (U.S.-Japan Council)

The Japanese American Leadership Delegation provides Japanese American leaders with the opportunity to become acquainted or re-engaged with Japan and participate in discussions related to the role that Japanese Americans can play in addressing key issues that face both countries, now and in the future.

The first delegation was invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) to visit Japan in 2000. It included third and fourth generation Japanese Americans selected from various professional fields including the educational, cultural, philanthropic, legal and political sectors. Since the initial trip, delegations of Japanese American leaders from throughout the United States have visited Japan every year since 2002. JALD Alumni have created a network to ensure that the commitment to strengthening U.S.-Japan relations is maintained. Alumni of the program are invited and encouraged to join the U.S.-Japan Council's international network of leaders and participate in Council programming and events. See <http://www.usjapancouncil.org/jald>

The JALD's alumni network has also been a great boost to the U.S.-Japan relationship as they meet annually, connecting through USJC activities and building ties among cohorts. Other USJC programs, such as the Business Advisory Board, similarly have built networks and all of these networks have created a deep engagement among their members on issues that affect the U.S.-Japan partnership.

3) The U.S.-Japan Caucus in the House of Representatives (Co-chairs, Representatives Joaquin Castro and Dave Reichert)

The U.S.-Japan Caucus is a bipartisan congressional organization with more than 100 members who are dedicated to strengthening U.S.-Japan relations. The caucus aims to facilitate bilateral collaboration on matters of common interest between our two countries, including trade, foreign direct investment, regional stability, military cooperation, energy, technological development, and the environment. The caucus collaborates with other entities and stakeholders that share this same objective.

While not an exchange initiative, the U.S.-Japan Caucus has become one of the most important platforms for legislative dialogue on U.S.-Japan relations.

<https://usjapancaucus-castro.house.gov/about>

There are also examples of innovative ways of building transnational bridges that take advantage of innovative communications technologies outside of the U.S.-Japan relationship that might be informative. For example, a new for-profit initiative begun by individuals in the UK and Commonwealth countries sets out to build a community of experts across national borders that can help each other solve contemporary social challenges. This international policy social network is called *Apolitical*, and their mission is to “help public servants tackle urgent challenges by connecting them to the most innovative policies and people worldwide.” For more on what motivates this new “global impact network,” see <https://apolitical.co>.

Next steps: The U.S. Task Force will convene a workshop in Washington, DC in February/March 2017 to learn more about the need for innovative platforms for transnational collaboration. This will include a discussion on how to build greater linkages between U.S. legislators, as well as explore some innovative efforts using social media and other information technologies that might offer new opportunities for sharing expertise between American and Japanese professionals.

U.S. Task Force Activities for FY2018

Since our formation last fall, the U.S. members of the Task Force on the Next Generation have begun to consider how best to help those who are coming up into positions of leadership in the U.S.-Japan partnership. Our Japanese colleagues have also begun their discussions, and we look forward to comparing our findings on October 5-6, 2017 in Tokyo. A final report will be published in 2018.

In an effort to focus our U.S. conversation, this interim report seeks to share our findings to date and to define goals and activities for the next fiscal year, beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018. In addition to preparing for our meeting in Tokyo, we hope to generate an interim report by September 30, 2018 that lays out our analysis and begins to formulate recommendations for government

and private sector stakeholders that will support the human resources necessary to a strong and innovative U.S.-Japan partnership in the decades to come.

August/September 2017	Draft interim report (U.S. Task Force)
September	Outreach to U.S. Congress (U.S. Task Force)
October 5-6, 2017	Meet with Japanese colleagues in Tokyo
November, 2017	Workshop on Emerging Areas of Collaboration
March 22-25, 2018	Meeting on Japan Studies at AAS Conference in Washington, DC
Spring 2018	Workshop on New Platforms and Networks
June 4-5, 2018	Presentation of activities to date at CULCON XVIII in Washington, DC
Summer 2018	Compare/consolidate U.S. and Japanese reports
September 30, 2018*	Final version of U.S.-Japan Task Force report

*End of U.S. fiscal year.

A Bi-National Agenda for Support for the Next Generation:

Our October meeting in Tokyo will be an opportunity to share our findings and learn more about the Japanese Task Force's thinking about their society's needs. In addition, we will be looking ahead to understand how we can develop shared goals as well as ways to support each other's goals.

Some topics for discussion might include:

Different systems, different needs: The U.S. Task Force would like to hear more about the Japanese Task Force's priorities and to identify ways to support their efforts.

Changing rewards for professional development: The U.S. Task Force would like to discuss how the careers of younger professionals—academics, government officials, and those in the private sector—are being shaped. What are the rewards and hurdles of building a career that includes an interest in U.S.-Japan collaboration?

New arenas for U.S.-Japan collaboration? We would like to hear more about what areas of collaboration are on the horizon for the U.S. and Japan. While we cannot cover every professional field, we would like to understand where new opportunities can be created by younger Americans and Japanese and how that may shape the kinds of exchange opportunities needed.

The U.S. and Japan in Asia: This may be obvious, but it is apparent in U.S. Task Force discussions that the United States and Japan now work on a broad array of issues of importance to the Asia Pacific. Rather than looking solely at our bilateral cooperation, the U.S.-Japan partnership can now be seen as a platform for regional collaboration. Identifying ways to support these endeavors would also be valuable.

Defining our time frame: 5-10 years: This Task Force seeks to offer concrete proposals that can help the next generation of U.S.-Japan leaders, and it would be useful to decide on what time frame we are using to define our initiatives. This will also shape our activities to follow up on the Task Force recommendations.